small scale sector. A comprehessive package of reliefs and concessions which can be extended to potentially viable sick units under rehabilitation has also been drawn up by the Reserve Bank of India. The Industrial Development Bank of India has a special scheme for extending assistance for revival of sick units in the small sector which have been assisted by the State Financial Corporations, the Small Industries Development Corporations, Bank or which are self-financed. Government have also decided to set up a National Equity Fund in the Industrial Development Bank of India for providing support towards equity to small scale entrepreneurs including sick units for the purpose of rehabilitation of potentially viable sick units. Special cells have been set up by the Reserve Bank of India, Industrial Development Bank of India and scheduled commercial banks to tackle the problems of sickness in the small scale sector.

(c) At the end of 1986-87, the employment in the small scale industries sector was estimated at about 101 lakh persons (provisional) and production at current prices in the sector during 1986-87 was estimated at around Rs. 72,250 crores (provisional).

Investment in Public Sector Projects

1570. SHRI A. G. KULKARNI: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) how many projects earning profit are at present working under his Ministry and the total investment in the public sector, project-wise;

(b) how many of these projects were completed as per the original project report and investment envisaged and how many of these projects were delayed in completion due to various reasons and price escalation thereon; and

(c) what are the main reasons for which many of the projects are not making profits as per the original project estimate and the remedial measures adopted to improve the working thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) Out of 70 Central public enterprises under the administrative control of the Ministry of Industry, 30 enterprises earned profits during the year 1985-86. The total isvestment in terms of equity and loan in the enterprises under the Ministry of Industry enterprise-wise is available in Volume-I, Page Nos. 153 and 154 of Public Enterprises Survey 1985-86 placed on the Table of the House on 27th February, 1987.

(b) The enterprises were established over a period of years. Some of the enterprises were taken-over from the private sector as they were sick. The compilation of all the details asked for by the Hon'ble Member would involve work not commensurate with the benefits to be obtained therefrom.

(c) The reasons vary from enterprise to enterprise. In general, some of the main reasons for which many of the projects are not making profits as per the original project estimate are time and cost over runs, changes in the scope of work, escalations in input costs, demand constraints, technology changes etc.

The measures taken to improve the working also vary from enterprise to enterprise depending upon the specific reasons for poor performance. However, in general, the steps adopted to improve the performance include product diversification, modernisation, technology upgradation, adoption of cost control and cost reduction measures, improvement in productivity, better capacity utilisation by improving the availability of vital inputs like power, coal etc.

Foreign Tours by BHEL Employees

1571. SHRI KAILASH PATI MISHRA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of BHEL employees| officers including the Directors who have visited foreign countries for more than 30 times (since their induction with BHEL) alongwith their names, designations, date of joining BHEL, their qualifications, area of duty|activity; and

(b) the number of foreign visits, countries visited and amount spent on the

foreign visits including fare and allowances (in Rupees) in each of the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) and (b) The information is furnished in the attached Annexure. [*See* Appendix CXLIII Annexure No. 73]

Survey conducted on Industrial Production in Northern Region

1572. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY:

SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a survey conducted by PHD Chamber of Commerce and Industry has revealed recently that due to non-availability of the critical inputs during the first quarter (January—March) of 1987 in the Northern Region, in industrial production has been greatly affected; and

(b) if so, what action is proposed to be taken to ease the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir, a survey was conducted by the PHD Chambers of Commerce and Industry. The critical inputs referred to in the survey are coal, cement, kerosene oil, furnace oil, L.DO, power etc. The table below shows that the availability of such critical inputs during the January—March, 1987 has improved as compared to January—March, 1986 for the Northern Region:

		January-March	
		1986-87	1985-86
Coal	Lakh tonnes	324·1*	299·45*
Kerosene	Tonnes	413398	388805
Furnace Oil		N.A.	40410
L.D.O.	"	76800	67900
Power	Mill. kwh.	12395	11269
Cement	'000	@9632·1	@8574·4

*For full year including January-March.
@Relate to all India.

Geophysical Computer System

1573. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Soviet Union have supplied first of the three Geophysical computer systems of the model EC-1961 computers;

(b) what are the terms on which these computers have been obtained;

(c) how far these would be useful for the location of Oil and Natural Gas; and

(d) how much foreign exchange is likely to be spent thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHM DUTT): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The cost of hardware of Soviet origin is covered under deferred payment, payable in non-convertible Indian rupees over a period of 10 years in half yearly